AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (currently amended): A door system comprising:

a front door and a rear door that are configured to shut together a continuous opening in a vehicle body;

a striker configured to be inserted in both the front door and the rear door along an axis so as to couple the front door and the rear door when the continuous opening is shut by the front door and the rear door, said striker comprising a slider portion and a head portion, the slider portion being defined by a first cross sectional dimension and the head portion being defined by a second cross sectional dimension, and

a catcher configured to be formed on one of the front door and the rear door and having a hole sized to receive said head portion and shaped to restrain the head portion from withdrawal from the hole when said striker cannot move along said axis, wherein

when at least one of the front door and the rear door is opened and the striker is moveable along said axis, the striker is drawn out from one of the front door and the rear door so as to cancel the coupling between the front door and the rear door.

2. (original): The door system according to claim 1, wherein one of the front door and the rear door comprises the striker, and the other one of the front door and the rear door comprises a catcher configured to receive the striker.

3. (original): The door system according to claim 1, wherein the rear door comprises:

an upper latch mechanism located at an upper front position of the rear door; and

a lower latch mechanism located at a lower front position, wherein the upper and lower latch mechanisms are configured to hold the rear door closed.

4. (original): The door system according to claim 1, wherein the rear door further comprises a child lever located at a front end surface of the rear door and configured to disable opening of the rear door from an inside of the vehicle.

5. (currently amended): A door system for opening and shutting a continuous opening of a vehicle, the door system comprising:

a front door

having a first surface, and

configured to open and shut a front portion of the continuous opening;

a rear door

having a second surface corresponding to the first surface, and

configured to open and shut a rear portion of the continuous opening independently of the front door, the rear portion complementing the continuous opening with the front portion; and

a striker provided at one of the front door and the rear door and comprising a slider portion and an head portion, the slider portion being defined by a first cross sectional dimension and the head portion being defined by a second cross sectional dimension larger than the first cross sectional dimension, and configured to be moveable along an axis and inserted in a catcher formed in the other one of the front door and the rear door when the continuous opening is completely closed as the front and rear portions are shut by the front and rear doors respectively,

wherein the first surface and the second surface approach and oppose each other so as to be substantially parallel to each other, when the continuous opening is completely closed, and

wherein said catcher is configured to have a hole sized to receive said head portion and shaped to restrain the head portion from withdrawal from the hole when said striker cannot move along said axis.

6. (original): The door system according to claim 5, wherein the rear door comprises a latch mechanism configured to hold the rear door closed.

7. (original): The door system according to claim 5, wherein the second surface of the rear door comprises a child lever configured to disable opening of the rear door from an inside of the vehicle.

8. (previously presented): The door system according to claim 1 wherein the striker is moveable.

9. (previously presented): The door system according to claim 8 wherein the striker is biased in a first direction and is moveable by an actuator in a second direction.

10. (previously presented): The door system according to claim 5 wherein the striker is moveable.

11. (previously presented): The door system according to claim 8 wherein the striker is biased in a first direction and is moveable by an actuator in a second direction.